Contact: Liz Brocker (701) 328-2213

December 8, 2015

\$1.25 MILLION IN GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SERVICES

BISMARCK, ND – More than a million dollars in grants is available for organizations and entities providing services relating to human trafficking, announced Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. The \$1.25 million in grant funds was authorized by the 2015 legislature as part of a comprehensive package of bills to address human trafficking in North Dakota.

"During the legislative session the state made a promise to victims of human trafficking that we would help them find a better life. This grant will put funding in the hands of organizations that can do that, just as promised," said Stenehjem.

In addition to organizations already providing prevention and treatment services to victims, the grants are available to entities seeking to expand into North Dakota, and to criminal justice agencies for training and enforcement efforts and prosecution of traffickers.

The grants will be awarded through a competitive process beginning in January. The Attorney General's Human Trafficking Commission and the Drug and Violent Crime Policy Board will review the applications and make recommendations to the Land Board, which will distribute the grant awards in February.

The grant application instructions and application form can be downloaded from the BCI Grants page of the Attorney General's website, at www.ag.nd.gov. Completed applications must be received by BCI no later than December 31, 2015.